

a right to know, what we are getting for \$65 million.

There are many other issues that my committee will examine about these acquisitions including:

What is the status of the Habitat Conservation Plan for the land surrounding the Headwaters Forest?

What impact will that Habitat Conservation Plan have on other property owners in the western United States and Pacific Northwest?

Has California come up with its \$130 million share of the purchase price for the Headwaters Forest?

Do both acquisitions comply with the terms of the National Environmental Policy Act?

How will the properties be managed? By whom?

At what cost?

How will the public access the Headwaters Forest?

Is it good public policy to settle constitutional takings cases against the United States in this manner?

Is it good public policy to settle environmental litigation in this manner?

How does the Clinton administration interpret the phrase "priority Federal land acquisitions?"

Are the Headwaters Forest and New World Mine acquisitions consistent with the Federal land management policy on Federal land acquisitions?

While this may seem like an exhaustive list of issue, I only have skimmed the surface of the numerous unanswered questions about the acquisitions.

I want all of these questions answered before the acquisitions occur. It is in the interest of the taxpayers. It is the responsibility of this body.

My goal is to ensure, despite the uncommon circumstances which have led us to this point, that Congress and the American people can have confidence in the decisions to acquire the Headwaters Forest and the New World Mine in the interest of the taxpayers.

Mr. President, I yield the floor. I see several Senators seeking recognition, including the majority leader.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

ACTION VITIATED ON AMENDMENT NO. 1602 TO S. 1269

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the action on the Inhofe amendment, No. 1602, which was agreed to on S. 1269, be vitiated, and that the amendment be restored to the status quo when the Senate resumes the bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I thank all Senators for their cooperation on this matter.

I particularly want to thank Senator INHOFE for agreeing to do this. He came to the floor and offered his amendment. And it was accepted on a voice vote. Senators were aware of what was being discussed. But in a desire to be totally fair and making sure the proper notifi-

cation was given, and to have opposition on the floor when action of that nature is taken, Senator INHOFE has been willing to agree to vitiate that action at this time. I thank him for his cooperation.

This is a very important issue which will be debated in the Senate and which should be considered by the Senate. It is an issue that has support and opposition on both sides of the aisle. Senator INHOFE certainly is very committed to having this subject considered by the Senate either later on this year or next year.

Again, I reiterate my thanks to him.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, it is my understanding that the Senate now is in a position to consider the Amtrak reform bill. The bill would then be agreed to after brief debate.

The Senate would then conduct a rollcall vote on the nomination of Judge Christina Snyder.

Following the confirmation vote, it is my hope that the District of Columbia appropriations bill will be ready to be considered.

Therefore, votes will occur with the first vote occurring at approximately 2:15 today.

I thank all Senators who have been involved in these other two bills, and we will update them further with information as to when votes may occur. It is possible that another vote will occur this afternoon. But it depends on action in the other body with regard to the appropriations conference reports.

Mr. DASCHLE addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The minority leader.

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, let me thank the majority leader for his efforts over the last 24 hours.

I also thank the Senator from Oklahoma.

Obviously, Democratic Senators need to be on the floor to voice their opposition and to object on the occasions when situations like this arise. We also have to work with good faith, and we intend to do that.

There is no reason why we need to be monitoring each other if we are working in good faith. I think this is a misunderstanding. I appreciate very much the cooperation. And we will work with the majority leader to ensure that at some point we have a good debate about the matter that would be addressed by the Inhofe amendment. We will work on this matter in the future.

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, will the leader yield?

Mr. DASCHLE. I am happy to yield to the Senator.

Mr. INHOFE. I want the majority leader to be aware that I did consult with several Democrats and Republicans before taking up the amendment. But I am happy to do this.

Mr. DASCHLE. Very good.

Again, Mr. President, let me just say that we have a lot of work to do. I look

forward to working with the majority leader in the next 48 hours to see if we can complete it. I am pleased that we are now able to move to the Amtrak bill, and nominations. We can do that, and then move on to other things.

I yield the floor.

UNANIMOUS-CONSENT AGREE- MENT—NOMINATION OF CHRIS- TINA A. SNYDER

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, as in executive session, I ask unanimous consent that at 2:15 today the Senate immediately proceed to executive session and a vote on the confirmation of Executive Calendar No. 255, Christina A. Snyder to be U.S. district judge for the Central District of California.

I further ask unanimous consent that following that vote the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, any statements relating to the nomination appear at that point in the RECORD, and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action, and the Senate then return to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

THE SCHEDULE

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, before we move to the Amtrak legislation, I want to say for the information of all Senators—and I will have more to say about this when we have a recorded vote at 2:15. I think at that time we should take the time to talk about the schedule for the remainder of the day and perhaps Saturday and Sunday.

It is our intent to stay and continue working. I don't see the necessity for us to be late tonight. But we will be back in on Saturday, and again on Sunday. We hope that we will have appropriations conference reports, possibly the first one being the Labor-HHS appropriations conference report, perhaps even later on today or tomorrow, and the Commerce-State-Justice conference report we hope to have by tomorrow, and, if not then, on Sunday.

We will continue to work on other issues, some of which may require votes, even on the Executive Calendar. And then when the House votes, of course, we would then proceed to act on fast track after the House has acted. Whether that is Saturday or Sunday now is not clear. But the House has postponed their action on fast track today. So that will not be taken up until Saturday or Sunday.

So we could be voting on fast track—perhaps on final passage—later on this weekend. But, in the meantime, of course, when we complete these intervening actions, we will go back to fast track as it is now pending before the Senate, and amendments will be in order, and other amendments I am sure will be offered. We will consult with the interested parties about how to proceed on those amendments and what time votes would occur.